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In The Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt
Appomattox, Virginia
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EDITORIALS

AN OLD PAPER PASSES

The famous New York Sun, one of the nation's leading newspapers has just sold out to a competitor, The World-Telegram - itself a result of a consolidation.

The Sun was 116 years old.

It has a glorious tradition and history. It was to the New York Sun that Virginia wrote her famous letter asking if there was a Santa Claus. One of the famous editors was the great Charles A. Dana. At the time of its sale, its circulation was 300,000.

New York City, with over eight millions of people and serving a fabulous trade area, will now have the following newspapers of general circulation:

Afternoon:
World-Telegram and The Sun
The New York Post
The New York Journal American

Morning papers:
The New York Times
The New York Herald-Tribune
The Daily News
The Mirror.

In addition, there are a number of localized borough papers.

However, this is a small list for such a population. In the state of Virginia, with 3,000,000 population, there are some thirty daily newspapers and over 100 weekly newspapers.

There is definitely a trend toward consolidations of newspapers in the competitive areas. On hand, we can not recall a single daily newspaper in Virginia having competition in its immediate trade area. By reason of purchases and ownership consolidations, Virginia cities have morning and evening papers published from the same plants and under the same general policy. The staffs might be separate, but the over-all point of view is consolidated.

The basic reasons for this condition are the high costs of producing a creditable newspaper. These costs have increased at fantastic rates in recent years. Newsprint paper has more than doubled in price, and labor costs, equipment and general supply prices are at such a level as to scare off risk capital for other than old established, non-competitive plants. To start a new paper from scratch in a competitive field is simply financially unsound.

Newspaper men hate to read of the passing of a paper like the New York Sun. Although many of its features will be continued in the World-Telegram, the point is that there is one voice less in a constant fight for freedom and American ways of life.

SOMETHING FOR AMERICANS TO THINK ABOUT

The editorial on this page today, on the passing of the New York Sun, leads us to venture into another line of thought.

Last week a major national weekly magazine carried an article telling why it was that many who go to America from countries without a background of our kind of democracy, find it difficult if not impossible to adjust themselves to life in this country.

A case cited was that of the Russian aviator who escaped to America but recently went back because he had been unable to to adjust himself to America.

We think this should be discussed, and we think such a discussion will enable to understand the problems of our world in a new light.

America has the highest standard of living in the world. And it is spread out over all levels of people. We usually cite figures on the number of automobiles, telephones, refrigerators, radios, etc we possess, and the luxuries each and everyone may possess. And we glory in our freedom of decision and action.

These precious possessions are very dear to us. We can and would fight for them.

But what we fail to realize, apparently, is that there are people who have no knack or talent at securing all these wonderful things, even if they lived in America!

They have never had to go out look for a job! They never have had to compete for food and clothing and housing and everything else in life. They have always been told where to work, where to sleep, what to eat, where to go for recreation, what to read, to THINK! And over a period of time the fire of competition smoulders and dies.

But in its place there is the drug of a sort of security. Others do all the worrying for you. You simply do what you are told, and follow the routine, finding what happiness you need in your family and simple life. The average American would find such a life unendurable. But likewise Americans must realize that changing from one life to another involves many things, and that

(Continued on page 4)

WITH OTHER EDITORS

THE CHANCE TO CHOOSE THE SCHOOLS YOU WANT

(From The Shenandoah Valley, published at New Market, Va.)

We applaud the stand of State Senator Harry F. Byrd, Jr., recently announced, to combine the offices and duties of the Board of Supervisors and the School Boards of the several counties of Virginia as an important step toward better schools. Virginia has long needed a lot more democracy in its schools in order to stimulate the interests of its people in public school progress. This only can be done by giving the qualified voters more direct say in the school administration by way of the ballot box. Mr. Byrd's proposal, if translated into appropriate legislation, will go a long way in this direction.

While serving for 20 years as a member of the Shenandoah County School Board, we were impressed with the fact that a system by which the Judge of the Circuit Court appoints a Trustee Electoral Board, which in turn selects the members of the School Board, was unwieldy, unresponsive to the wishes of the people, and therefore not a democratic method of handling a most vital function in a democratic nation.

"SENTIMENTS WHICH UNITE US"

(From The Milwaukee Journal)

The scene was the British House of Commons. It was Winston Churchill's seventy-fifth birthday. Prime Minister Attlee, who had sparred with Churchill in many a political battle, rose to pay warm tribute. Churchill—courtly, gracious and ever the phrase-maker— replied with: "This brings home to me how far more great are the 'all those sentiments which unite us than are the still quite unimportant matters which are so often the occasion of debate in this greathouse."

How right! And how strong are a people and how sound their democratic political system when they can recognize and be guided by the "sentiments that unite." This is the basic strength of mature, democratic self-government.

To set date for new elections in Britain.

BIBLE SPEAKS
International Children's Broadcast
By: DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

SCRIPTURE: Acts 2:42; 5:42.
DEVOTIONAL READING: Hebrews 11: 23-26, 39-40.

Fellowship

Lesson for January 15, 1950

THE FIRST CHRISTIANS didn't have everything we have, but on the other hand they had one thing seldom to be seen nowadays. They did not have the New Testament, only the Old; they were not surrounded by an even partly Christian civilization; they had no centuries of Christian tradition; they had no world wide Christianity, only a small knot of people in one small and out-of-the-way city, Jerusalem. On the other hand, for all they lacked, they had one great thing: Fellowship. We have it too, but too often in a week and watery fashion as compared with what they enjoyed.

Dr. Foreman

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Family Living

THE WAY FIRST Christians lived literally like a big family. This is all the more extraordinary when you think of the variety of their backgrounds. (Look up the list of places mentioned in Acts 2:9-10 on a map of Asia, Africa and Europe.) A good family is a unit.

If little Willie comes down with appendicitis, his parents don't get out the family account book and figure out how much Willie has been worth to the family, in dollars and cents, in his eight years of life.

Suppose they calculated that his services, such as they are—carrying in the wood, feeding the chickens, or what not—had been worth about $23.75 since the last time he was sick; they wouldn't send little Willie to the hospital with the note to the doctor: "Please give our Willie $23.75 worth of operation. That's all it has put into the family budget and that's all we're going to let him take out!"

Not by any means. Little Willie is taken to the hospital and whatever operation he needs, that is the one his parents want him to have, even if it costs 20 times what Willie has been worth in cash. The family give Willie what he needs, and they also expect him to help out in all the ways he can.

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Church Living

ONE TROUBLE with our churches today is that so many of them have actually lost this family-feeling. The early Christians, we are told, "Were of one heart and soul." Could you say of your church that all its members are of one heart and soul?

The early Christians, feeling thus close to one another, "had all things in common." What do the members of your church have in common? They meet in one place once a week. But what else? Do they even speak to one another? If one member of the congregation falls sick, do the others find out about it quickly, and when they find out, what do they do about it? If trouble comes to a member, do the other members rally around him?

Does the church say to its members, as the Salvation Army does of hard-pressed men, "You may be down, but you're never out?" Some churches have a pastor's or deacon's fund, to be used in cases of need.

Contributors to the fund are as anonymous as are those who are helped by it. The idea is for those who are blessed with large income, or those who may have special windfalls, bonuses, extra dividends, big crops, and so on, to chip in for the aid of all who may run into trouble.

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Not All Troubles Are Financial

NATURALLY, not all troubles are financial. Some of the most serious troubles have little or nothing to do with money. There are many other kinds of needs. For example, in any church there will be lonely people, and you can't cure loneliness with a check, no matter how big.

The minister is the key man. he can locate the needs, but he can't supply them all. Lonely people, those who have been through deep sgrow, men trying to find the right jobs, young folks in danger of serious temptation — a church which is like a family will not let these people fight their battles alone.

What we all need is the feeling that we belong. The church can make all the difference between despair and happiness simply by making every single person in it feel that no matter what happens to him, he still belongs; he is more than among friends, he is among brothers.

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Oakville

Oakville, Jan. 9.- Rct. Burnette C. Smith, of Fort Knox, Ky., spent several days last week with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. Roland Smith and family.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Roland Smith and daughter, Daphne visited Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Watts at Monroe Sunday.

Watt and Ralph Smith spent Sunday afternoon with Mr and Mrs. Terry Rogers at Appomattox.

Miss Marie Owen has returned from a visit with her family in Cleveland, Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Cleamon and family and Mrs. India Scott are visiting his relatives, at Warren, Ohio.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Bob Wagner, on January 2, at Lynchburg General Hospital, a boy, Richard Garry.

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Drinkard and children spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Drinkard. Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Drinkard and children were there in the afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Bethel and Miss Arlene Drinkard also were guests.

E. B. Drinkard spent last weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Burnette Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Brumfield spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Hall.

Clyde and Dorothy Hall spent Sunday with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Durie.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Dunkley and children, of Farmville, visited Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Page Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Taylor Coleman and daughter visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Moore on Sunday afternoon.

Those visiting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Martin Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. David Martin and Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Martin and boys, Randolph and Bentley, and Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard Moore.

Rocks

Rocks, Jan. 9.- Farmers are busy stripping tobacco.

The Home Demonstration Club held its January meeting with Mrs. John Ranson last Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Williams and Steve were dinner guests of Mr and Mrs. Robert Roach on New Year's Day.

Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Marsh were visiting Mr. and Mrs. Freddie Woolridge one day recently.

Mrs. C. W. Baldwin and daughters were in Farmville one day recently.

R. L. Jennings was selling tobacco in Lynchburg recently.

Edward Ranson will go back to work today.

Mrs. Carl Shelton has been on the sick list.

Cecil Holt and friend, of Brookneal were hunting here Saturday.

O. L. Myers is spending a few days this week near Red House.

The W. M. S. meeting was held Sunday just after Sunday School. Mrs. D. R. Inge had charge of the program.

The Quarterly business meeting will be held at the church Saturday, January 14th, at 2:30 P. M. All members are invited.

Rev. Terrell Brown will preach at Rocks Church at 11:00 A. M. Sunday. The public is invited to hear him.

Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Marsh will be wed fifty years Saturday, January 14th. Congratulations to them!

Richwood

Richwood, Jan. 9.- "He who does not display appreciation for favors and services rendered to him by another; who does not remember help given in the time of need, is not worthy of being called a friend.' —Quoted.

Divine services will be held at the Central Baptist Church on Sunday evening at 8:00 o'clock.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Woodall visited Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Pugh.

Mr. and Mrs. Willie Mann were in Lynchburg on business Tuesday.

Mr. J. L. Love is in poor health, and is taking periodic treatment at a Lynchburg hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. D. A Pugh were the guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Marsh.

Mr. George and Miss Estelle Wooldridge and Franklin D. Cawthorn visited with Mr. and Mrs. T. T. Wooldridge and daughter, Marvin Sunday evening.

Mrs. J. L. Blackwell is ill at this writing.

D. A. Pugh and Carter Martin were in Lynchburg on business Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Gu'l visited with Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Hicks Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Mondics spent Monday in Washington, D. C., on business.

Paul and Roy May were in Lynchburg on business Monday.

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